

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated January 11, 2008, a typographical error was noted in claim 4, which has been corrected.

Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lim and Turner et al.

The Lim reference has an effective date for prior art purposes as of its filing date, which is December 18, 2002. The Turner et al. reference has an effective date for prior art purposes as of its PCT filing date, which is November 13, 2002.

The present application claims the benefit of convention priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 based on German Application 102 27 308.1, filed in the German Patent and Trademark Office on June 18, 2002.

Acknowledgement was made in the January 11, 2008 Office Action of the previous submission of a certified copy of the priority document, and Applicants have simultaneously herewith filed a certified translation of that priority document in order to perfect their claim for convention priority under 35 U.S.C. §119.

Since Applicants' priority date precedes each of the effective prior art dates of the Lim and Turner et al. references, neither of those references is available as prior art against the subject matter of the present application. Therefore, the current rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on those references cannot be maintained.

The present response does not raise any new issues requiring further searching or consideration, and is therefore properly enterable after the Final Rejection, under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Entry of the present Amendment and reconsideration and allowance of the application are therefore respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519.

Submitted by,



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